

## Maintenance workers strike deadline set for March 15

by Nancy Cooper

At a meeting on Sunday, 130 out of 170 McGill maintenance workers voted to reject the administration's latest contract proposal. The workers' negotiating team now has the mandate to strike March 15.

This was the third consecutive Sunday that the workers of the 350-member Service Employees Union (SEU), Local 298

FTQ, met to hear the latest contract offers arising from negotiations which have been going on for nine months.

A final round of talks with McGill is now under way. If maintenance workers reject the final contract offer on March 14th, they will strike and the picket lines will be set up around the campus Monday, March 15.

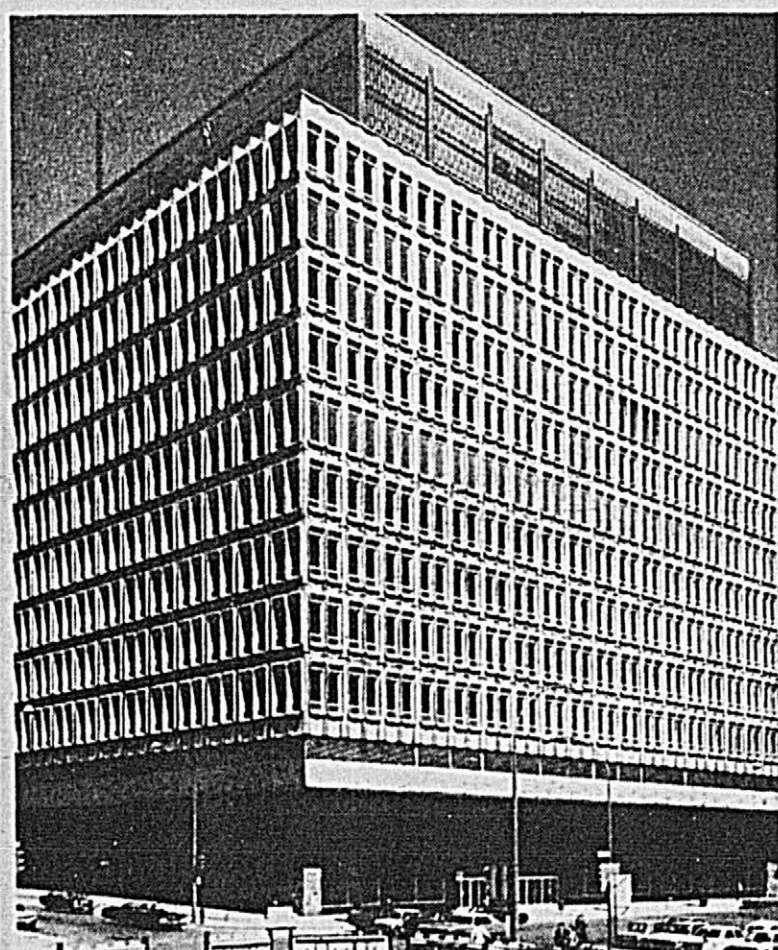
According to Joe Gargiso, SEU union representative, the negotiating team has settled all the smaller "normative" clauses and "98 percent are in our favour." But he said that there are still more demands to be met. The Administration has so far settled many of the important issues, including the pension fund. This fund, which is part of the collective agreement, had remained a key outstanding clause until last week.

Last Friday, McGill sent a written guarantee to the union. It stated that if the negotiations concerning the pension fund fail to bring about a settlement, the maintenance workers will have the right to strike until December 31, 1976.

Under the proposed new agreement, all outside sub-contracts for jobs which the maintenance workers are qualified to do would be eliminated. Also severance pay would equal one week's pay multiplied by the number of years worked at McGill, disregarding the former benefit ceiling of 10 years.

Wages, which are subject to the wage and price freeze, will depend on the gains of the Common Front, which is presently demanding a minimum wage of \$165 per week. Many workers feel that the "Trudeau Law," the wage and price freeze, stands in the way of their struggle to improve their living and working conditions.

McGill has guaranteed in writing that whatever is gained by the Common Front, will be matched in salary and monetary benefits.



Henry F. Hall Building, Concordia University, where library workers await a strike mandate.

## SGWU library union stalls strike, seeks public support

Library workers at the Sir George Williams campus of Concordia University voted last night to delay an impending strike for another eight days.

Library worker union spokesperson Nancy Marelli stated that "they are delaying the strike in order to marshal community support to pressure the Administration. If the outstanding issues are not settled soon, there is a strike tentatively scheduled for March 11.

The union is seeking a 7 per cent increase in the weekly salary earned by its lowest paid workers who used to receive

approximately \$100 weekly under the now-obsolete contract.

The union is affiliated with the Syndicat Canadien de la Fonction (SCFP) which also represents the maintenance workers at Université de Montréal and the Université du Québec à Montréal. These groups voted Sunday night in favour of a strike commencing today.

The present situation at Sir George is blamed on Jim Harford, negotiator for the university's administration. The library workers there, as with the

other 3500 members of the SCFP, have been without a contract since August 1975.

The final decision to strike will largely depend on the decision of other Common Front members, who vote Sunday on a general strike action.

Asked if the individual action by various unions is a show of breaking in the common front action, Peter Page, SGWU library spokesperson replied that "the situation is different locally in each university. Different amounts of progress have been made at each place."



Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow: If the contract negotiations between the university and the maintenance workers do not come to an agreement by the fifteenth, the next snow storm could stay with us for quite a while.

## Restructurers to go to the students

by Nancy Bazilchuk

The Committee to Restructure the Students' Society moved in a meeting last night to go to the campus and consult students and faculty representatives about what they felt the function of the Students' Society should be.

This would be done by one of three subcommittees set up last night. The second subcommittee would review constitutions and models of student societies at other universities, and the third would interview clubs concerning the McGill Students' Society.

The Committee invited two speakers to last night's meeting—Mrs. Sadie Hempey and Kyriakos Matziorinis—in order to gain added insights into the Students' Society. After a two-and-a-half hour discussion it was decided, in Hempey's words, to "get to the students and see what they want—if they don't want a students' society, see what they do want."

Hempey also stated that she felt that the "present Students' Society structure is obsolete—it is up to the student to determine his needs." Hempey also recognized that there are external factors that have decreased student participation and expression of their needs. "The university, for one, has a total lack of concern with the student. The Administration continues to recruit students without any concern as to where the students will live."

Hempey cited the reduction

of the undergraduate degree program from four to three years due to CEGEPs as an additional cause of student apathy. "A student is less likely to participate in extracurricular activities when he is attending an institution for a shorter period of time," she stated.

Along with this, the declining importance of the Student Union as a gathering place due to the presence of various vending machine cafeterias around campus has lessened a sense of student community.

Hempey recommended to the Committee that some systematic sampling of the students should be taken in order to restructure the Students' Society effectively.

Committee chairperson Sam Boskey then turned to the second speaker of the evening, Kyriakos Matziorinis, who made recommendations from the viewpoint of having served on the Executive of the Students' Society. It was Matziorinis' opinion that the "mandate of the Students' Society is difficult to fulfill. The Students' Society is supposed to provide financial resources, form policies and present them to students, deal with community aspects of university life and administer the University Centre."

These varied tasks, along with "an insufficient amount of organization in the Society has hampered its functioning."

He also recommended that a questionnaire be formulated and distributed to find out what students want.



(“ ”)

## Contemplating the nature of alcoholic consumption

While many politically conscientious students are undoubtedly weighing the merits of a campaign that advocates the boycotting of one specific brand of commercially sold alcohol (as put forward by the Daily, with respect to Molson), some others are also contemplating the very nature of alcoholic consumption.

Behind the suggestion that one ought to abstain from one particular brand of beer, lies the presupposition that, as a general rule, drinking (with the one exception) is fine. Like all presuppositions, this one is taken to be naturally given, though its origins have been blurred and forgotten through habit and time.

It is invariably dangerous to question cultural maxims—especially when one doubts the desirability of alcohol consumption in a society that likes to consider itself free and libertarian or in a university of 'let it all hang out' aquarian progressives. The most common argument, one which is superficially insurmountable, is: "What's wrong with drinking? My God! Even priests drink."

True enough. But it is important to remember that the teetotaling spiritualist has an incredible mass of symbolic meaning underlying the gulping of his wine. In the Christian tradition, this worldly indulgence represents the partaking

of a savior's blood.

An analogous wealth of symbolism weighs upon every layperson who partakes of beer, wine, and or spirits. Like the priest, whose drinking repeats a daily communion with his God, the layperson's every swallow reaffirms his or her admittance to a culture that offers very few other media of identification. Drinking, like other uncomfortable practices that do not ameliorate bodily health and vigor, is a way of making oneself feel a part of his or her culture. Or, to paraphrase Descartes, "I drink, therefore I belong."

The adolescent's first sip is culturally equivalent to his or her first brain-fogging and lung-searing puff on a cigarette, his first neck-tearing shave, or, as Dr. Spock might put it, his or her first excretory discharge into the cultural toilet-bowl. The first sip is a ritual which one is pressured to undergo in order to belong. And it is a ceremony that is regularly re-enacted in order to emphasize one's membership in a group of peers.

It is a rarity to find an individual who has never taken part in one of the above (especially among the present generation and its trademarks, marijuana and the hallucinogens).

We know that peyote (which we sometimes call mescaline) originates from tribal South America, among natives who

certainly did not consider the joy of intoxication a result of their consumption. Western observers have pointed out that peyote and its equivalents are bound up with native religion and are used to invoke spirits. American poet Allen Ginsberg, who experimented with Ayahuasca (an exotic concoction) in Peru with the natives there, reports that his experiences were anything but pleasant. The only entities which he invoked were severe bodily suffering and spectral hallucinations which frightened him back to America.

Peyote was introduced to North America for the benefit of those who wished to belong to a culture that rejected the norms (and the beverages) of the prevailing culture. Peyote is, or at least was, the badge of the 1960's sub-culture.

Just as it would be dangerous to the cultural survival of the Peruvian native to refuse a sip of Ayahuasca, for the British rugby player not to patronize the pub, or for the Russian to pass up a mouthful of vodka, it would be difficult for today's North American to shake his head at a cultural offering.

In like manner, it would be impossible to convince a living North American that one doesn't enjoy the offerings, when one insists one loves it. Still, habit makes the heart grow fonder.

And even above those who sincerely enjoy, there looms the question: Do you at least know why?

—Marc Cassini

## letters

### Biology crib sheets?

To the Daily:

I had to write a mid-term for Biology 201 in McConnell Engineering 616 on Wednesday. I found the room plastered with centrefolds from Playboy and Penthouse—all nude women—and my first reaction was to feel rather left out—there were no pictures of nude men. Pity!

However, on further thought, I realized that the problem did not lie in equal representation, but in the fact that a University is not a place which should encourage exploitation and degradation of human beings by either sex.

I am certain that no other faculty would condone such immaturity and narrowness of mind, and I do not see why Engineering should persist in

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## around campus

### Up the hill

In hopes of spurring more communication and interaction among the McGill residences, Bill Burton, and four other students have organized and published a leaflet entitled, "Up the Hill."

The leaflet, which made its debut early this week, is composed of news and creative writing written by and for the students at the residences.

doing so.

It does not create an atmosphere conducive to the writing of exams, or more generally speaking, to the creation of a liberal and fair-minded society.

S. U1 Science

### Only Lambs and Lamas are barn-born?

To the Daily:

It seems as if the "Daily" debate over Tibet is never ending. This is partially because there is no middle ground about Tibet as stated in the letter to the editor on Feb. 20 which perhaps Ellanor and Leo should read.

If anyone took the time to contemplate Han's talk they might see some of her inconsistencies. First of all, why did she ignore the existence of Tibetan medicine before the takeover and praise it after. If the Dalai Lama is free to go home, then who keeps making constant attempts on his life? If Tibetan music, dance and drama are free to flourish then why were the performances of the 'Tibetan Folk Opera' demonstrated against by the Chinese, in New York last November?

Tibet was a capitalist society where 90% of the people were the working class, not slaves as Han so melodramatically called them. It was not a utopia as some people described it, but neither was it the opposite extreme. The Dalai Lama was the religious and secular leader because that is what the people wanted. If He kept his power by telling his people that machines ran on children's blood, then why would the Quebec Tibetan community (pop. 70), who work

The leaflet is financially backed by the Inter-Residence Committee. The editorial board, which is composed of Bob du Broy, Bill Burton, Garth Hall, Ann McMamamen and contributing editor Alex Von Lichtenberg, was allotted \$150 to cover the first three issues. "After that we go before the committee for review," Burton said.

"Response from the students has been good and we are getting a lot of constructive criticism which will improve our next issue," commented Burton. "Quite a few students have already joined the staff," he said.

The 'Up the Hill' office is located at 3851 University Street in Douglas Hall.

Sara Williams

in factories, own houses and cars, in short have witnessed the wonders of modernization, still regard the Dalai Lama as their sole leader? I asked a Tibetan friend of mine about Han's claim that children were born in barns. He answered, "People have homes, animals have homes, why should baby be born in animal's home, unless it is like Jesus Christ; then there is reason."

I was disappointed in Han. At least she could have outlawed petty sarcasm and ridicule as a part of her tactics. To me, making fun of the Dalai Lama only lessened her credibility. If the Dalai Lama was powerless why would these means be necessary? It should be realized that Tibetans comprise the only organized Chinese minority left. There is no Mongolian government in exile. There are no Manchurian dance troupes touring North America. Who ever heard of the Uighurs? These are dead races! There is a Tibetan government in exile in India. There are about 150,000 Tibetan refugees roaming the world. Obviously, from the Chinese point of view these voices need to be suppressed.

Anyone who thinks that they have heard the truth about Tibet, I urge you to give the Tibetan people a chance. See both sides and then decide. The "old way" lives in Dharmasala, India. Go there meet the Tibetan People, see their schools and their medical center and talk to His Holiness, the Dalai Lama. I promise you you will not have to write your questions on a piece of paper.

Deborah Simpson



What's wrong with this picture?

New York Times



# American students protesting tuition fee hikes

DENVER [CSP-CUP]—Tuition hikes and budget cutbacks are giving an ugly edge to the mood of students hemmed in by spiraling costs. Although schools are staying tight-lipped about their budget for next year, American colleges that have put the bad news on the line have been met with angry rallies, threats of combined student-staff strikes, and accusations that higher education is becoming the domain of the rich.

In Georgia, Illinois, Ohio and New Jersey students have confronted administrators in the past month over education costs they feel are becoming prohibitively high. Shoving matches between regents and students, egg-pelted college

presidents and rallies "recalling the mood of the sixties" have been the result of 25 per cent tuition hikes and layoffs of up to 80 faculty members at a single school.

Students hit with the second tuition increase during the year at the University of Georgia formed an indignant crowd in mid-January, protesting what amounted to a 25 per cent increase in their tuition for the year. While tuition has skyrocketed, cutbacks have trimmed library hours, health services and faculty and student jobs on the campus.

A rally that drew students and faculty hit hard on the effects increases in tuition would have on minority students. A black speaker charged

that tuition hikes would "come down hardest on the people least able to pay." Black members of the school's student council have threatened to call for a tuition strike even if the rest of the student government doesn't agree.

At Trenton State College in New Jersey, students and faculty are gearing up for a strike on March 15 to protest tuition increases of \$265 and staff cutbacks that could send 80 faculty members into the streets. Chancellor Ralph Dungan was struck with eggs as he explained the school's \$1.5 million budget cutback for the coming year. Along with the 80 faculty members, about 1,000 students would be cut from the school to stretch available

money further.

A letter to the editor of the Trenton Signal, the student newspaper, derided the cost hike and cutbacks as reflecting "the trend in higher education that is going to make it available only to the rich, as it used to be."

An angry crowd gathered outside a regents meeting at Kent State University in Ohio earlier this month, protesting a \$45 per year tuition increase. A shoving match broke out between students and a regent attempting to enter the meeting room. Six campus police held about 60 protesters back, but the short scuffle sent one of the police to the hospital with bruises.

Students at Kent State suggested that instead of raising the tuition, the regents put a \$25,000 ceiling on salaries and consider trimming the amount of money going to intercollegiate athletics.

Meanwhile in Illinois, blacks and other groups are embittered following a suggested tuition increase that would have students paying one-third of their educational costs. Black spokespersons called the tuition increase an "immediate

disaster for blacks and other minorities.

A long-range tuition plan for the state's public colleges would increase tuition by over \$300 in three years. Soaring tuition along with halts in expansion of facilities and hiring threaten to "completely gut what advances blacks and latinos have made in higher education," according to black State Senator Richard Newhouse.

Other colleges and universities will probably be keeping any tuition increases under their hats until later this spring, after regents and administrators have a chance to figure out the difference between their proposed budgets and the amount state legislators have actually given them. But if private schools' proposed tuitions are any indication, the outlook won't be good.

Private institutions that have announced tuition increases for next year are upping the ante about eight to ten per cent. Total educational costs at Princeton will go up eight per cent, Harvard is jumping 8.4 per cent to \$6,430, Dartmouth will be up 10.8 per cent and the University of Southern California about 9.3 per cent.

## Georgian joins beer boycott; executives shuffle cards

by Larry Black

The boycott in support of striking workers at the Molson-owned Vilas Furniture plant who are opposing the piecework system, developed further today with the decision of the Georgian to pull their Molson beer advertising at least until the situation is clarified.

According to Kevin Quinn, editor of the Sir George Williams student publication, "leaving Molson ads in the paper would be tantamount to taking a stand supporting the company."

The decision follows a resolution adopted by Quebec anglophone student newspapers this weekend to support "the just fight of the Vilas workers in their demands for safe working conditions." Joining their colleagues in the Atlantic provinces, the Martlet, the campus newspaper at the University of Victoria in British Columbia, has also decided to deny advertising space to the Molson Companies.

The workers at the furniture factory have been on strike for



eight months protesting high-pressure bonus pay systems, which result in a hazardous rate of production. The Daily, in a feature article a few weeks ago, quoted sources as saying over 50 per cent of the workers in the wood-cutting section had lost

at least one finger through industrial accidents.

Representatives of the Molson Company contested this figure, but did concede that other statistics cited in the Daily were "more or less accurate", including rates of six accidents a month requiring hospitalization, and a rise of 43 per cent in the number of accidents since the institution of the bonus pay system.

Leigh Townsend, President of Vilas Furniture, when visiting the Daily explained that the piecework system, or "incentives" system as he called it, "has helped build Canada," and "has contributed to the Western World." He then demonstrated how stepping up production is as safe as dealing a deck of cards a little faster. Riffing a brand-new deck and giving a watch to a Daily reporter, he dealt out four piles of cards.

"Nineteen seconds," he said, "that's eleven seconds faster than standards determined by international time-motion studies. This is the theory of work cadence."

He offered to deal again even faster, but we declined, fearing he might lose a finger in the process.

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The deadline for having your picture taken for Old McGill 76 is April 15. Photos may only be taken at Van Dyck and Meyers Studio, 1121 St. Catherine St. West. Information sheets are available at the union box office or at the photographer.

## Old McGill Yearbook:

Now on sale at the Union Box Office, \$7.50 each. Further info available at the Union.

## Old McGill Staff Meeting:

There will be a meeting of the Old McGill Staff in the Union B 44-45 at 6. Anyone interested in working on the yearbook is urged to attend regardless of experience. If you would like to work on the book but can't make it at these times, please call Michael at either 392-8990 or 342-2947 eves.

## Sermon on the Mint:

"Poverty and Affluence". Join us at 1 pm in the Newman Centre, 3484 Peel St., as we share our thoughts on the Christian position concerning riches.

## ASA Film Series:

The Anthropology Students' Association is showing "Les

Maltres Fous," by the famous ethnographic film-maker, Jean Rouch, today at noon in Union 327. The film shows a group of Africans astride two worlds: working in the city, obeying the laws and customs of the Western world, and, on special days, carrying on their own rites and customs. All welcome.

## Debating Union:

Meets at 7:30, not 3 pm, Union B-42. Debates on topics for upcoming tournaments.

## Motorcycle Club:

See us to one in Union 327. No chains, bro!

## Music recital:

Lieder Recital: Karen Bender, contralto; Doris Killam, piano. Lieder by Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Mahler, Strauss. Strathcona Music Bldg. 8 pm, Room C310, free admission.

## A break from machine food blues:

Bagels and creamcheese or sandwiches, soup, cake, tea and coffee all for 70c in a relaxed atmosphere. Every Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 pm at McGill Hillel, 3460 Stanley, 845-9171.

## Modern Greece:

Film: "At the Roots of Modern Greece," Greek film in English. 7-9pm Leacock 26. Admission free.

## McGill Young Alumni:

Two couples counsellors and a sociologist will look into the past, present and future of the

institution of marriage and changing lifestyle within relationships. "Getting Along Together," an open discussion, will be led by Dr. Sue Mei Graub, Counsellor Department, Loyola; Dr. H.M. Leard, Counsellor Education Department, McGill; Dr. Harold Potter, Department of Sociology & Anthropology, Concordia. All welcome, charge. 8 pm, Leacock 82. Info: Mary Payson, 392-4816.

## Baha'i Club:

There will be a meeting of all the Baha'is at McGill today at 12 noon in Union 327.

## Faculty concert:

Piano duo. Alcides Lanza and Edgar Valcarel in works by Santoro, Grela, Bolanos, Barroso, Asato, Bazan, Iturriaga. Pollack Concert Hall, 8:30 pm. Free adm.

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## ENTERTAINMENT

McGill Film Society: Wed. "Fantastic Planet", FDAA, 8 pm., 50 cents; Fri. Le Petit Théâtre de Jean Renoir, L-132, 7 & 9:30, 75 cents; Saturday, White Dawn, 7 & 9:30, 75 cents.

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BABYSITTER needed for 6-week-old boy March 11-April 29, M-F, 9-5 pm. Call 769-9003 eves or weekends.

Working Girl (McGill graduate) looking to share apartment immediately with same, preferably downtown. Please call Victoria after 5:30 at 288-6556.

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Responsible BABYSITTER needed all day Monday and Tuesday (or Wednesday) morning, for 2 pre-school children. Call 486-2182.

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